

Belfast - Victoria Hotel 6<sup>th</sup> December 1845

My Dear Friend - you have already been in formed of our success in getting the cause before the people in this place. From all I can see now - I think it will be of the utmost importance that I remain here a much longer time than that allotted in the first instance. The field here is ripe for the harvest, this is <sup>the</sup> very hot bed of presbyterianism and free churchism, a blow can be struck here, more effectually than in any other part of Ireland. One nail drove in a sure place, is better than a dozen driven at ~~hazard~~ random, a bird in hand is worth ~~two~~ in the bush, it is better to have a few true friends - than a great many acquaintances. To be known thoroughly by a few is better than being known slightly by many. Well then, the conclusion I draw from this - though it may seem a most lame and impotent one - is, that I had much better remain here - and go from there to Scotland than to go to Birmingham on the sixteenth dec. - Will you not my Dear friend do what you may to have me released



I think you will have little difficulty in  
doing so - if any think may be heard from  
the cold letter from Mr Cadbury - which  
talks of some one paying my expenses  
to the meeting, &c. &c. You can manage  
it I know if you think best - So here I leave  
the matter. Well all my Books went last  
night at one blow - I want more I want  
more, I have every thing to hope and -  
nothing to fear The paper of this morning  
took a favorable notice of my meeting last night  
and a deep interest seems to be excited.  
I have written to Thont telling him of  
my success in getting the Methodist  
meeting house - in the face of letters preju-  
dicial to me both from Cork and  
Dublin. Thont did not like my re-  
marks at the Exchange the other  
Evening. He has written me a long  
letter giving me his views of of the  
subjects there ~~discussed~~ <sup>discussed</sup> ~~discussed~~ So you see I  
am not without counsel.



I found the blankith Thomas gave me, of  
great service to me - many thanks to  
him for it. I had a call from Mrs Webb. of  
this town - wishing to engage me for two  
days at her house, she is a very good pro-  
per looking person. I've engaged for one  
day only. Well you will want to know how  
I get on at the Hotel - Comfortable - Comforta-  
ble. - The friends have placed me here  
they say to make me accessible to  
every one that wishes to see me  
they have gained their purpose thus  
far - "Still they come", I can thus far truly  
say Every one that hears me seems to think  
he has a special claim on my time to listen  
to his opinion of me. To tell me just  
how much he condescends and how much  
he approves - Very well, let them  
come, I am ready for them  
though it ~~is~~ is not the most agreeable.



in great haste excuse the  
writing very truly yours  
H Douglas